

Athletics Northern Territory Board Directors

Kate Heelan



Kate is an executive with wide-ranging leadership and diplomatic experience and cross-border collaboration skills, gained in Australia and internationally.

Kate is the current President of the United Nations Association of Australia – Northern Territory Division (UNAA-NT) and Chair of the Australia Indonesia Business Council – NT.

From 2015 – 2021, Kate led the Northern Territory Government's international engagement efforts as Director International Engagement at the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation. She is a strong advocate for the broader benefits of soft diplomatic initiatives including art and sporting programs. Her team won the 2019 Chief Minister's Award for Excellence in Partnering for the 2019 Arafura Games Business Engagement Program.

In earlier roles with the Australian Federal Government, Kate managed a range of projects that supported the Royal Australian Navy fleet, and coordinated the then Defence Science and Technology agency's information and communications technology advice.

Kate spent 5 years as a diplomat in her role as Counsellor Customs and Border Protection at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Previously Kate was a member of both the Arafura Games Advisory Committee and City of Darwin's International Advisory Council.

She holds qualifications in Defence and Strategic Policy as well as a Master of Management Studies from the University of New South Wales, and studied Indonesian at Atma Jaya University in Jakarta.